

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 200100Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5506

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9278

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, JA.

SUBJECT: USSR-JAPAN RELATIONS: NORTHERN TERRITORIES

1. ACCORDING TO CANADIAN EMBASSY SOURCE, FONOFF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS DIRECTOR KURODA RECENTLY TOLD CANADIAN AMBASSADOR CAMPBELL THAT GOJ HAS RECEIVED HINTS OF A SOVIET DEAL ON NORTHERN TERRITORIES. PROPOSAL APPEARS TO BE THAT USSR WOULD RETURN SHIKOTAN AND HABOMAI OUTRIGHT, AND GIVE GOJ LONG-TERM LEASE ON KUNOSHIRI AND ETOROFU (SIMILAR TO ARRANGEMENT WHICH FINNS HAVE IN KARELIA). IN RETURN, USSR WOULD REQUIRE GOJ DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY, NOT JUST FOR NORTHERN TERRITORIES BUT FOR ALL OF JAPAN. KURODA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT PRIMIN TANAKA IS INTERESTED IN EXPLORING ALLEGED PROPOSAL BUT THAT FONMIN OHIRA HS REJECTED IT OUT OF HAND AS BEING TOTALLY UN-ACCEPTABLE.

2. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT KNOWS, LEASING ARRANGEMENT AS ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO NORTHERN TERRITORIES' PROBLEM HAS BEEN FLOATED BEFORE BUT DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY AS QUID PRO QUO IS NEW SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE. WE INFER THAT TANAKA'S INTEREST RELATES ONLY TO EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF LONG-TERM LEASE SINCE GOJ IS, OF COURSE, FIRMLY OPPOSED TO ANY EROSION OF ITS SECURITY ALLIANCE WITH U.S.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL REVERSION, LAND, LEASES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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